

231525Z DEC 83

DIST:: 23 DEC 1983
COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJECT: ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AGAINST
SALVADORAN OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN RIGHT-WING
DEATH SQUAD ACTIVITIES

DOI: LATE DECEMBER 1983

Approved for Release
NOV 1993

TEXT: 1. IN LATE DECEMBER 1983 A [REDACTED] SALVADORAN ARMY GENERAL STAFF OFFICER SAID THAT GENERAL CARLOS EUGENIO ((VIDES)) CASANOVA, MINISTER OF DEFENSE, HAS OFFERED HECTOR ANTONIO ((REGALADO)) CUELLAR, CHIEF OF SECURITY OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, AND LT. COLONEL JOSE RAMON ((GONZALEZ)) SUVILLAGA, AIDE TO ROBERTO ((D'AUBUISSON)), PRESIDENT OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, THE OPTIONS OF EITHER DEPARTING EL SALVADOR OR REMAINING IN EL SALVADOR AND SUBMITTING TO AN INVESTIGATION OF THEIR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT WITH RIGHT-WING DEATH SQUAD ACTIVITIES. BOTH REGALADO AND GONZALEZ HAVE RESPONDED THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO SUBMIT TO AN INVESTIGATION. REGALADO MAINTAINED THAT HE IS NOT GUILTY OF ANY CRIMES AND SAID HE FEELS HE IS THE VICTIM OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST D'AUBUISSON. GONZALEZ TOLD VIDES CASANOVA THAT HE BELIEVES THAT U.S. INTELLIGENCE HAS A PLOT AGAINST HIS LIFE, BUT DID NOT PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING HIS SUSPICIONS.